

TO: Senate Environment Committee  
RE: Senate Bills 1148 and 1149

I oppose both Senate Bills 1148 and 1149.

Senate Bill 1148: It doesn't make sense to hunt bears in Litchfield County when the greatest density of bears is in the Farmington River Valley. States with hunting still have expanding bear populations. These are the areas where bears have become habituated to humans and become a nuisance. Hunting bears will also orphan cubs who can't fend for themselves.

DEEP should use non-lethal methods and public education to address the bear population. DEEP is allowed to euthanize bears that are deemed dangerous.

Senate Bill 1149: It would be wonderful to continue to have one day a week to spend in the woods without having to worry about hunting.

Susan Van Kleef  
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